

HOUSE BILL 308

By Parkinson

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Section  
49-6-3115, relative to promotion of students.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-6-3115(a), is amended by deleting the subsection in its entirety and by substituting instead the following:

(a) Beginning with the 2013-2014 school year, a student in the third grade shall not be promoted to the next grade level unless the student has shown a basic understanding of curriculum and ability to perform the skills required in the subject of reading as demonstrated by the student's grades or standardized test results. However, such student may be promoted if the student participates in an LEA approved research-based intervention prior to the beginning of the next school year and, upon retesting, shows a basic understanding of curriculum and ability to perform the skills required in the subject of reading. LEAs are strongly encouraged to explore a variety of research-based intervention formats, including, but not limited to, extended hours instruction, summer instruction, and other approved formats. This section shall not apply to students who have IEPs that specifically address reading difficulties pursuant to 20 U.S.C. § 1400 et seq. or who have a determination of limited English proficiency requiring services pursuant to 20 U.S.C. § 6801 et seq.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2013, the public welfare requiring it, and shall apply to promotions made following the 2013-2014 school year.